

**The Watauga Democrat.**  
 R. C. RIVERS, Editor and Owner.  
 Published Every Thursday by  
 THE RIVERS PRINTING CO.

Subscribers wishing their addresses changed will please favor us by giving the OLD as well as the NEW address.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:**  
 One Year ..... \$1.50  
 Six Months ..... .75  
 Three Months ..... .40  
 Payable in Advance.

**Advertising Rates on Application**  
 Cards of Thanks, Resolutions of Respect, Obituaries, etc. are charged for at the regular advertising rates.

Articles sent for publication without giving the name of the writer will not under any circumstance be published.

Entered at the postoffice at Boone N. C. as second class mail matter.

Thursday, September 27, 1923

**TOKYO**

Rev. Irving P. Johnson Editor of the Witness.

"A great and strong wind brake in pieces the rocks before the Lord; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a great earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake." What could describe the apparent catastrophe of human history more vividly than these words by the prophet of the book of Kings?

There is a story in a lofty romance and a tale about the earthquake and the fire and the type of manhood which witnessed the greatest spectacle of all human history.

The earthquake was terrifying as great earthquakes mean to all the confounding world of the 20th century. The men and women of the time were in a state of confusion and were in the habit of Tokyo. They were in a state of confusion and were in the habit of Tokyo.

Human wealth to hundreds of millions were being burned. Beautiful parks, costly edifices, stately mansions were being destroyed—all in the twinkling of an eye.

What of it?  
 Is it merely an incident where men pay the penalty of building cities in the proximity of volcanoes?

Is it a visitation of the wickedness of man rather emphasized in the legalized vice of the Japanese?

Is it an exhibition of God's wrath like that on Sodom and Gomorrah? Perhaps. Let the Master answer the question, when He was confronted with a calamity less widespread but similar in its purport.

"Or these ten men upon whom the tower in Siloam fell and slew them—think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwell in Jerusalem? I tell you nay! but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Looking at the catastrophe from a purely scientific standpoint it was due to the fact that men built Tokyo in a dangerous place and paid the penalty for their temerity.

Such is the materialist explanation of the spectacle, but these were fluid elements of fire and wind and water acting according to their nature and whoever was there suffered from these causes.

Such is the materialist explanation, but it does not satisfy the man looking down from a high place on this scorching inferno.

Why is it permitted by the overruling Providence which has made us and gave us all things that we possess and who is therefore responsible for things thus done?

Is it the nature of the man to look at things from a materialist standpoint and to hold the hand responsible for tetrapara...?

To him the great devastation is the loss of property, the destruction of wealth, the death of human beings.

For these things are going on constantly and are taken for granted.

As many lives are lost and as many property destroyed throughout the world in a single month as was contained in this terrifying spectacle in a single day.

In other words, what took place at Tokyo was a dramatic exhibition at one time and place of that which is going on everywhere every day.

The unusual and therefore the interesting thing is the dramatic effect.

It has, as all dramas must have, a moral purpose entirely apart from its physical causes.

It is, if you please, a terrifying spectacle of the end of the world as described by Christ.

It gives one a very evace evidence of the permanent values in human life and human effort.

From God's standpoint it is appointed unto men once to die; it is of the nature of human enterprise that it shall all end in dust and

ashes; the fashion of this world passeth away either suddenly as in Tokyo, or else gradually as elsewhere.

There are two ways in which one could have accepted this tragedy of the orient. If one were a righteous man, full of faith and hope and love he could have said "Should he slay me, yet I will trust in him and though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil."

If one were merely a materialist he could have cursed God and died. Just as one standing at the foot of the Cross in that dire tragedy could have said the same according as his viewpoint was that of Judas or John.

The Master looking on the scene, could have said: "Think ye that these men were sinners above all men that dwell on the earth? I tell you nay! but unless you repent you shall all likewise perish."

This is the statement of a fact, not the enunciation of a theory.

Material values must be judged by material standards and from the standpoint of a materialist this is the end.

Spiritual values, however are not to be judged by material standards and while the man of faith would be shaken by witnessing such a devastation, as Tokyo, he would not despair because he knows that he has kept his spiritual values.

The end of all things is inevitably dust and ashes, whether these ashes are the result of a sudden catastrophe or the lingering decay of a dying world. The mere fact that the destruction is thus dramatized will not destroy his faith for he already knows that this is the end of the world and that we perish in a fiery furnace or a chalice of decay through unending distress.

It is not the wrath of God against the people of Tokyo that one needs to see in this lesson, but so much as the fact that as good as the furnace is tried, so man's faith must be tested to distinguish spiritual values from material losses.

It is through ungodly tribulation that we must enter into our spiritual kingdom.

And after all, the great catastrophes of history have been the source of great spiritual blessings.

The tragedy of Calvary, the burning of Rome, the Reign of Terror, the Great War, awful as they are to contemplate, were yet the source of great spiritual values to men.

Much rubbish has been destroyed and out of the ashes new values have been produced. After all, the only lesson of these great calamities is to be found in the still small voice of human faith, by which men are made humble, the world is drawn together in sympathetic service and prospects of a new dawn arise, which leads men on to a new spiritual contest.

"Put them in fear, O, Lord, that that the heather may know themselves to be but men."  
 There is the human need that man may see visualized in each catastrophe. It is this dramatic lesson which has humbled the arrogance of Babylon and Egypt and Rome and Germany.

It is the grave alone which humbles the arrogance of the proud.

Whatever else Tokyo may teach us, it should teach us that we are "but men" and not little gods and that we have no other help but thee O God, who out of desolation can make a new heaven and a new earth.

**MEN YOU MAY MARRY**

By E. R. PEYSER

Has any one like this proposed to you?

Symptoms: No conductor need tell him to "Watch his step." He looks as if he were always engaged in the gentle feat of tight rope walking. Seems afraid to take up too much room on the sidewalk. Walks as near the inside of the street as possible and always has his coat tightly buttoned and often on warm days turns up his collar. Awfully smiling, awfully shy. His sleeves seem to have a hate on his cuffs and slide up his arms. He is overpleasant and awfully good to animals.

**IN FACT**

He is always good to everybody—too good.

Prescription to his bride:

R. A good nerve tonic daily.

Absorb This:

An ounce of dash is worth a pound in matrimony.

(Chicago Newspaper Syndicate)

**SUMMER COLDS**

that make you so uncomfortable in hot weather, are better treated externally—Rub over chest and throat and apply frequently up nostrils—

**VICKS VAPORUB**  
 Over 17 Million Jars Used Yearly

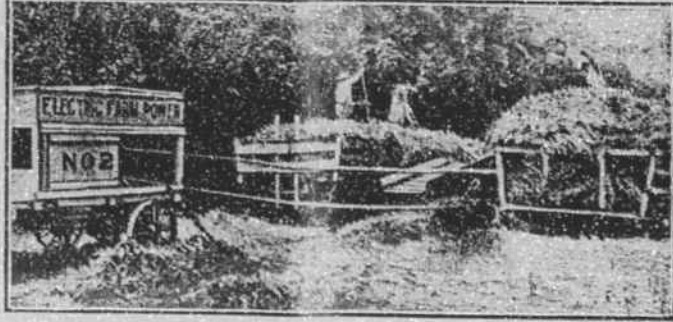
**Power Wagons Take Electricity To Farms From Power Lines**

**Portable Transformers and Motor Equipment Rented by the Day in Kansas.**

Electricity, which propels great vessels, moves giant locomotives and drives immense machines in manufacturing plants, finds no work too heavy

constructed a small transformer wagon which serves as a portable substation. It is connected to the power transmission line and its function is to reduce the high voltage of the line to voltages required for the work to be performed.

From the transformer wagon a long electric cable is paid out from a reel, and at the other end this cable carries



Motor Wagon Operating Threshing Machine on a Kansas Farm.

for it on the farm. No "chore" is too monotonous, no job too strenuous, and electric energy has the advantage over steam of instantaneous control. The only difficulty has been to find an economical method of getting electricity to the farm.

In Kansas, a region of large size farms, one of the power companies has solved this problem in an ingenious manner so that electric current from power lines can be made available for farm service. This supplies power in sufficient volume and at sufficient voltage for the best work of the farm.

The power company in question

current to a second wagon in which is mounted the electric motor which supplies power for the farm machinery.

The entire outfit is rented to farmers for two or three days, or longer if desired. It can be transported about so easily that a surprisingly large district of farming country can be covered.

Such heavy work as threshing, crushing rock and baling hay is efficiently performed with the aid of this arrangement providing the electric energy needed. It is predicted that mowing, disk and harrowing will also be thus accomplished eventually.

**LENOIR WILL HAVE A DAILY NEWSPAPER**

The first edition of the Lenoir Daily Sentinel was to have made its appearance yesterday afternoon.

We know nothing of the manager, save only that Mr. George W. Holloway, who is to reside in Boone with his father a Methodist preacher, is actively connected with the project. The friends of Mr. Holloway will be glad to know that he has been successful in the newspaper business, having been on the forces of some of the metropolitan dailies since he left Boone.

The paper will be issued every afternoon except Sunday.

**COVE CREEK COMMUNITY FAIR**

**LIVE STOCK**—Horse, Best draft team in harness; Best Saddle Horse, Best Colt, under one year.

**CATTLE**—Any breed, one breed will not compete with another. Best Bull over two years, Best Bull, under two years; Best Cow, over two years; Best Heifer, under two years.

**SHEEP**—Best Ram, any breed; Best Ewe, any breed; Best Lamb, any breed.

**HOGS**—Best boar, any breed; best Sow, any breed; Best Litter Pigs, any breed.

**Winter Time Is Near**

**WE ARE WELL PREPARED TO FURNISH YOU ALMOST ANY KIND OF HEATER YOU MAY NEED TO BURN COAL or WOOD**

**Our stock of Roofing, Nails, Barb Wire, and almost every Department is the most complete we have ever had it.**

**RANGES AS GOOD AS THE BEST AND THE PRICES ARE RIGHT TOO**

**Don't forget that you can get almost any article you want that is usually kept in a first class hardware store.**

Let us serve you.

**Boone Hdw. Company**

**Our printing done by skilled men with the latest machinery. It's better. That's all. Rivers Printing Co.**

**Monday October 1st.**

**W. E. SHIPLEY WILL HAVE for SALE IN BOONE THE FINEST LOT OF PURE BRED REGISTERED HEREFORD BULL CALVES AND YEARLINGS**  
 Ever shown in Western North Carolina.

**PUBLIC AUCTION**

**SALE**

**Monday, October 1st.**

**IN FRONT OF THE COURT HOUSE AT NEWLAND, N. C.**

**I will sell at public auction to the highest bidder from 20 to 30 horses and mules.**

**Don't bid if you don't want the animal being sold. There will be no by-bidders, no crooked schemes, and if-if-if a crooked horse or mule you will likely find it out soon enough.**

**I also have 50 head of Cattle, 10 Milch Cows, 15 Hogs, a lot of Wagons, Harness, Buggies, Gas Engines, Hay Balers Corn Mill Corn Crushers, Shingle Mills and most anything else you want, including two fine heavy yoke of Work Ox, to sell, but not at public auction.**

**Good men can get good terms. All I want is to sell and know I will get my money later.**

**Don't forget I a min Newland, N. C. with a full and complete line of general Merchandise, and regardless of others who may be in the same business, I assure you it will pay you to see me before you get all you want elsewhere, and be convinced that Hopkins' Store is the place to trade.**

**I buy everything any merchant farmer, Banker, Miner, Lawyer, Doctor, Preacher,**

**I sell everything you want or need or it Saint or Sinner would need. is not to be had.**

**Bring your dinner and stay all day. We will have a good time and you will have the opportunity of your life to get just what you want at your own price.**

**I am respectfully yours for business,**

**THOMAS W. HOPKINS**